

Preserve Stony Creek by Opposing Swap

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Cheers to John E. Rossey's comments opposing the land swap in Stony Creek Valley involving Harrisburg, the Pennsylvania Game Commission and Fort **Indiantown** Gap (Letters, July 10).

The six-mile mainstream of Stony Creek and the three tributary streams, Rattling Run, Yellow Springs and Rausch Creek, and related adjacent land were afforded protection under the Pennsylvania Scenic Rivers Act in March 1980 -- from the top of Stony Mountain to the top of Second Mountain.

Fort **Indiantown** Gap wants land within the corridor protected by the Pennsylvania Scenic Rivers Act. Gap officials state the property would create an additional safety buffer zone and a more readily identifiable property line and provide space for future needs.

Why can't the Gap keep the artillery shells inside the property lines already established? The entire valley between Blue (First) Mountain and Second Mountain is used for training. There is a road along the top of Second Mountain -- a readily identified property line. What future needs?

"Many of the rivers in Pennsylvania, or sections thereof and related adjacent land areas, possess outstanding aesthetic and recreational values of present and potential benefit to the citizens of Pennsylvania. It shall be the policy of the Commonwealth to protect these values" -- Pennsylvania Scenic Rivers Act.

Today Stony Creek runs clear and cold, thanks to the efforts of many people. Please oppose the land swap and preserve Stony Creek Valley for future generations.

JIM RICE Harrisburg